

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 461 - SB 537**

February 14, 2023

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Establishes that parental or guardianship rights may be terminated if a parent has been confined in a correctional or detention facility of any type, by order of the court as a result of one or more criminal acts, under a sentence of six or more years.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**NOT SIGNIFICANT**

Assumptions:

- Tennessee Code Annotated § 36-1-113(g)(6) currently states that parental or guardianship rights may be terminated if an individual is sentenced to 10 or more years for a criminal act. The proposed legislation lessens the sentence requirement to six years, and also allows for it to be the culmination of several charges, not just the sentence of one charge.
- The proposed legislation also removes the requirement for a child to be under the age of eight when the parent or guardian is sentenced in order to have the parental or guardianship rights removed.
- Any increase in caseloads to the Department of Children's Services that results from the proposed legislation is assumed to be handled within existing resources and personnel without a significant increase in state expenditures.
- Any additional workload on the courts can be accommodated within existing resources and personnel.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner".

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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